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# Regina



The Capital of  
Saskatchewan  
Canada

Its Advantages as a  
Commercial and  
Residential Centre

## 1907









REGINA, the Capital of the Province of Saskatchewan, is a conspicuous example of Western progress and development. Its prominence among the cities is chiefly due to its rapid commercial development, and its advancement in this connection is based on the fertility and productiveness of the country by which it is surrounded. Government returns for 1905 showed an average yield of 27.35 bushels of wheat per acre in the Regina district, compared with 23.09 as the general average for the Province. In the coarse grains the showing was equally favorable. The district, indeed, is as fertile as any on the continent, and is thoroughly well adapted for general agriculture.

There are various features which enhance the importance of the city, and give it high standing in comparison with other communities of the West. The railways have made it a central point in their undertakings, and it seems destined to be the headquarters of the transportation systems in Middle Canada. Already it is one of the most important points on the C.P.R., being served by the main line and the Arcola extension. It is the southern terminus of the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake & Saskatchewan Railway, which runs to Prince Albert, 250 miles to the north, and which has recently been acquired by the Canadian Northern. The latter railway will build from Brandon westward to Regina to meet this branch, and then push on to Calgary. The Grand Trunk Pacific will build three lines from Regina, to the north-east the east and the south-east. The Great Northern, or Hill System, will come into the city from Dakota on its way to Edmonton.

The location of the Provincial Capital marks Regina as the headquarters of the political, judicial, legal and educational systems in Saskatchewan. The city has been foremost in undertaking the solution of municipal problems and has established a favorable reputation for the progressiveness it has shown with respect to civic improvements. It occupies an important position among the financial cities of the Dominion, and is easily the banking centre of Saskatchewan. It is the headquarters of the world-famous Royal North-West Mounted Police, a semi-military body which has preserved peace and order for more than a quarter of a century over a territory as large as Continental Europe. In social, religious and fraternal affairs it has kept pace with the best features of modern development.





THE CITY HALL in Regina, one of the finest public buildings in Canada, is a monument to careful civic administration. Its cost is \$150,000, but this amount is taken from the surplus funds of the city, and not a cent is added to taxation on account of it.

A new fire hall to cost \$40,000, is about to be erected, the site having been secured. A new school costing \$60,000 has just been completed.

The electric light plant is owned and operated by the municipality, and it gives satisfactory service. The tendency so far has been to gradually reduce rates to consumers, and further reductions will be made as the cost of operation diminishes. Already more than \$100,000 has been spent on plant and equipment, and the service is continually being extended.

A waterworks system covering practically the whole city, has been installed, and a supply of pure water is obtained from springs seven miles north, the gravitation system being employed. A sewerage system, capable of meeting the needs of a large city, has also been put in. The amount spent on waterworks and sewers so far has been about \$350,000, but extensions are being made so rapidly that the figure will soon reach the half-million mark.

Bitulithic asphalt and creosote wood-block pavements have been laid on two leading business streets, and the other thoroughfares in the business section are being similarly covered. These are the first permanent roadways to be laid in the new provinces. Miles of cement sidewalks have been put down, reaching far out into the residential sections. Over \$200,000 is being spent on these street improvements, and a programme has been outlined for a further heavy expenditure next year.

The total amount necessary for the "forward movement" which is now going on is \$790,000, and if to this be added the sums already spent on electric light plant, waterworks, sewerage and other services, the total investment in civic improvements for the past two or three years will be found to be nearly \$1,500,000.

The city is able to afford this huge investment, on account of her excellent financial position. She has a small debenture debt, but it could easily be wiped out by the sale of some of the real estate which the city holds. The value





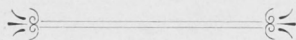
CITY HALL

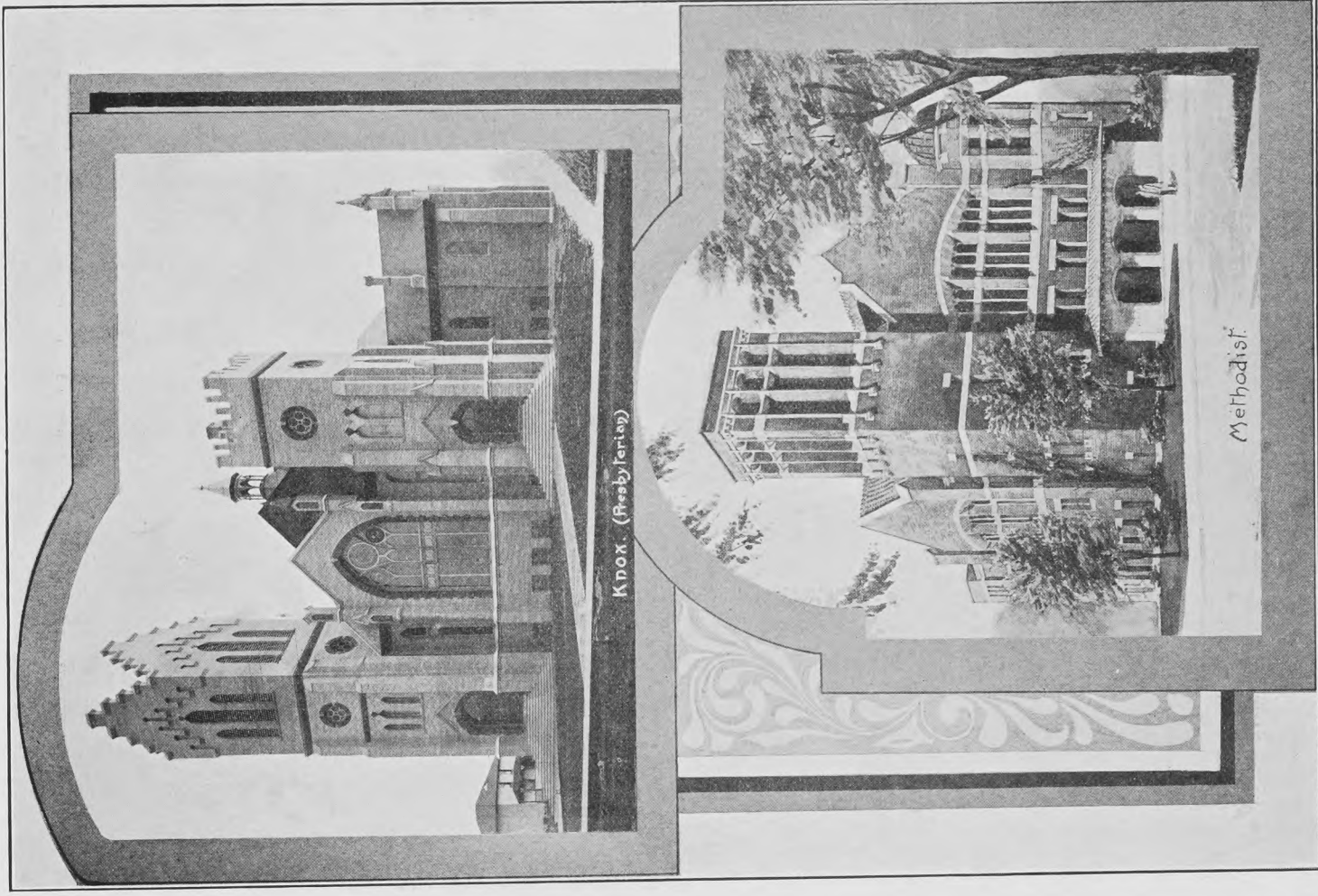


of this land is variously estimated at \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000, and small parcels are sold periodically to meet necessary expenditures. But the bulk of it is being held tight, and it is constantly increasing in value on account of the improvements which are going on. The total expenditures on civic works for 1906 would have warranted a tax rate of at least 30 mills under ordinary circumstances, and even then an immense legacy of debt would have been left for posterity. But the rate was only 15 mills, of which 5 were levied for maintenance of schools, and the amount added to the debenture indebtedness was very small.

The assessment returns for 1906 showed property valued at \$7,100,000, as compared with \$952,000 in 1901, a gain of 647 per cent. in five years. They also indicated a population of 9,600, as compared with 2,645 in 1901, a gain of 263 per cent.

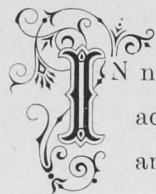
With an excellent electric light plant, first-class waterworks and sewerage systems, with modern roadways and sidewalks, with fine civic buildings and schools, with practically a surplus of about \$1,000,000, and with a low tax rate, it may readily be supposed that the people of Regina are proud of their municipal position.





TWO NEW CHURCHES





IN no sphere of development has greater progress been shown than in the advancement of religious thought and activity. The churches in Regina are doing a work of inestimable value and their influence is being extended more and more with the growth of the city. The various branches of the Christian faith are represented by large congregations and each is doing its share for the uplifting of humanity and the improvement of conditions which surround life in the West.

The Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Baptist and Greek Catholic Churches are those which are now ministering to the religious needs of the people, while the Salvation Army also conducts a vigorous and effective campaign for the advancement of the Christian cause. The heads of these congregations are men of wide influence in the community and they receive the earnest support of the people in their labors.

The church buildings in Regina are a credit to the city. The new Metropolitan Methodist Church is one of the finest in Canada. The progress made by this body is indicated by the fact that it has been found necessary to build another church in the northern part of the city. Knox Presbyterian Church was erected last year at a cost of \$50,000, and the largest congregation in the city worships within its walls. St. Mary's, the new Roman Catholic Church, was also erected last year, while St. Paul's (Anglican) was rebuilt at the same time. The Baptists have purchased a site in the central portion of the city upon which they propose to erect a building which will probably cost \$30,000. The enthusiasm of the church population is indicated by the sacrifices they are prepared to make in order to build and maintain beautiful houses of worship.



THE CITY'S SPIRES



“ALL ROADS POINT TO REGINA,” was the statement made in an influential Eastern newspaper which was recently describing the city’s railway position. The reference was to the determination of railway managers to secure an entrance into the Capital of Saskatchewan at the earliest opportunity. The volume of business transacted at this point is the magnet which draws them. The freight revenues alone were estimated to have been \$1,500,000 in 1905, and receipts from other branches of traffic about \$500,000, making a total of \$2,000,000 for one station. No other point in the Dominion of Canada can make such a showing, in proportion to population, and the business keeps on increasing. For July, 1906, the freight returns were about \$150,000, or more than twelve times as great as those at any other point in the province. Such a growth, indeed, has done more than anything else to make Regina an objective point for new railways. The Canadian Northern purchased the Qu’Appelle, Long Lake & Saskatchewan Railway for the purpose of securing an entrance into the Capital, and it has already made plans to build a second main line from Brandon westward to Regina and thence on to Calgary. The Grand Trunk Pacific has decided to make the city the central point in its southern system. The Great Northern is projecting lines running southeast, northeast and north respectively, from the city, and it is understood that surveys have already been taken. From a transportation standpoint Regina’s position will, in the near future, be impregnable.

G. Mollard



W. H. Duncan.



ALEX. MOWAT



W. E. Moore



W. E. MASON

FIVE RESIDENCES





WHOLESALE TRADE has grown to large proportions at Regina during recent years, and the city is now one of the great distributing centres of the West. The permanence of the commercial position is indicated by the fact that several of the leading firms have chosen to establish distributing depots in order to take care of the increasing trade of Saskatchewan. The implement manufacturers and dealers have made Regina their headquarters for the province, and this branch of wholesale trade has developed at a remarkable rate. The first big warehouse was opened in 1899, and each succeeding year has seen additions to the list. At the present time all the principal implement firms in Canada, and a number in the United States, are represented in commodious warehouses, and others are constantly coming in. Three big concerns selected sites in the summer of 1906, and these are making arrangements for the erection of buildings. The aggregate trade in agricultural implements at Regina for 1905 amounted to about \$4,000,000, and the business for 1906 is estimated at \$6,000,000. These figures alone demonstrate the importance of the city as a distributing centre. Other lines of wholesale trade include hardware and builders' supplies, rubber goods, fruits and general merchandise.

The entrance of the Canadian Northern Railway lines, and the coming of the Grand Trunk Pacific and Great Northern, are certain to give a great impetus to the development of wholesale trade, and several firms are making plans to begin business in the city in the near future. These firms already have a valuable trade in Saskatchewan, and for the purpose of conserving that business they find it advisable to do their distributing at Regina.



ONE OF THE WAREHOUSES





FROM an educational standpoint Regina maintains a position worthy of the Capital of the Province. One-third of the taxes levied in 1906 have been devoted to the maintenance of the schools, and no effort is spared to make the system thorough and efficient.

The principal building is the new Victoria School, which has just been completed. It is particularly adapted for public school purposes, and it is modern in every respect. It contains ten rooms, with seats and desks for 540 pupils, in addition to a large assembly hall. Ten teachers are engaged there. The Alexandra School has six rooms, with accommodation for 300 pupils and six teachers. The North end school has two rooms, with 100 pupils and two teachers. These three are not more than sufficient for the present needs, and additional schools will undoubtedly be required in the near future.

The High School has four rooms, with 100 pupils and four teachers. Its programme of work includes that prescribed for the first year in University courses. A fine new Collegiate Institute, with facilities for the effective handling of all branches of the work, will be erected next year.

The Normal, or training, school for teachers, which is under the direction of the Provincial Government, is at present located in the Alexandra School. The students come from all parts of Canada to receive their final training, and are afterwards distributed throughout the province. The demand for teachers is so keen that the annual additions to the supply are insufficient to meet it. About 150 students are enrolled in the Normal School at the present time, and it is expected that when this institution is installed in its new building, probably next year, the number will be largely increased.

The Gratton Separate School has about 200 pupils and four teachers. The school building is a commodious structure of white brick, centrally located and well adapted for the purpose.



Industrial School.



Normal School

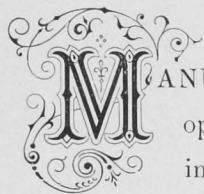


Victoria School (approaching completion)



High School

FOUR OF THE SCHOOLS



MANUFACTURING enterprises in Regina are gradually growing in number and importance. Most of them operate on a rather small scale at present ; but all of them are flourishing, and they have difficulty in keeping pace with the demands. They have risen from very small beginnings, and some have grown at a rapid rate. The industries include a factory for the production of office fittings, an abattoir, a large sash and door factory, an iron foundry, flour mill, several brick and cement plants, mineral water factories, two machine and repair shops, cigar factories, and some minor enterprises.

Strong natural and material inducements are offered at Regina for the establishment of manufacturing concerns. Desirable property, now owned by the city, with present or prospective trackage facilities, is available at low prices, and a large factory with a heavy pay roll could easily secure a free site. Other concessions depend upon the nature and extent of the enterprise. The preference will be given to those concerns which can obtain their raw material in Saskatchewan, but manufacturers of all kinds will be cordially welcomed. The city is prepared to extend a little the limits of its ordinary concessions for the sake of attracting a few more good enterprises to the field in the near future.

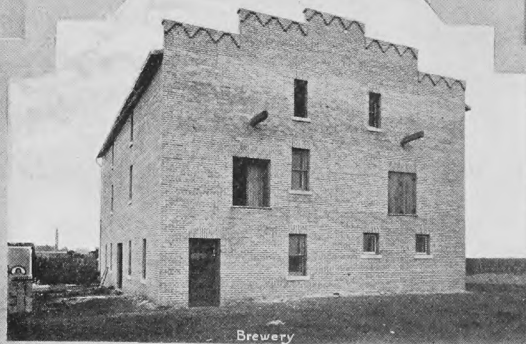




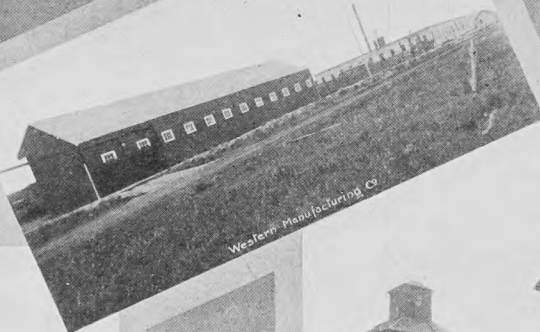
Cement Brick Works



Sawmill



Brewery



Western Manufacturing Co.



Cushing Bros.



Flour Mill

# TYPES OF INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS



ELOQUENT testimony to the strength and permanence of business conditions in the Capital City is furnished by the fact that eight chartered banks are represented by branches. Of these, the Bank of Montreal is the pioneer. It opened in Regina in 1882, when the town came into existence, and it is now housed in a beautiful building on one of the principal corners in the business section. The Union Bank came in 1898, the Imperial in 1902, the Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Ottawa in 1903, and the Northern, the Traders', and the Dominion in 1906. At least one other bank has made arrangements to begin business in the city, and several more are contemplating such a step. Regina is easily the banking centre of the province, but on account of the absence of a clearing-house comparisons with other cities in the Dominion are not possible. It is likely that a clearing-house will be established in the near future, the rapid increase in the number of banks rendering such an institution desirable.

Four of the banks occupy their own buildings, and these structures are handsome and commodious, with every facility for the convenient transaction of business. The other institutions are understood to be planning for separate buildings, and are awaiting opportunities for securing permanent quarters.

The leading trust and loan companies, insurance companies, and other financial institutions of Canada are represented in Regina, and the majority of these have located their head offices for Saskatchewan in the Capital. The Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation is bringing to completion a modern office-building, which is conspicuous among the fine business structures of the city. The example set by this company is likely to be followed by other prominent financial concerns which are now represented in Regina.

The city is also the centre for the bond business of the Province. One prominent firm bought more than \$2,000,000 worth of bonds of local municipalities, school districts and other organized communities in the West last year. This branch of finance is growing in importance every year, and borrowers are looking to the Capital of Saskatchewan for the funds with which to carry on their various improvements.



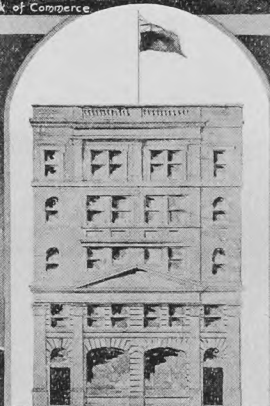
Unica Bank



Canadian Bank of Commerce



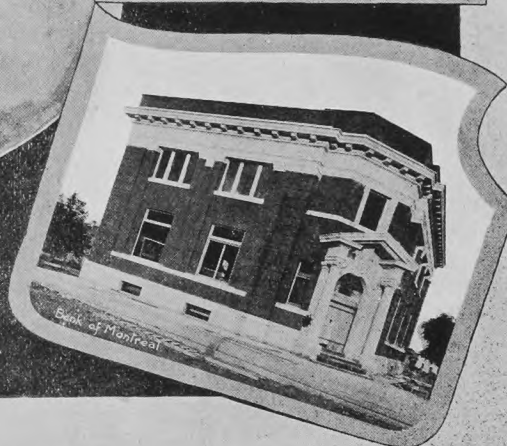
Imperial Bank



Northern Bank



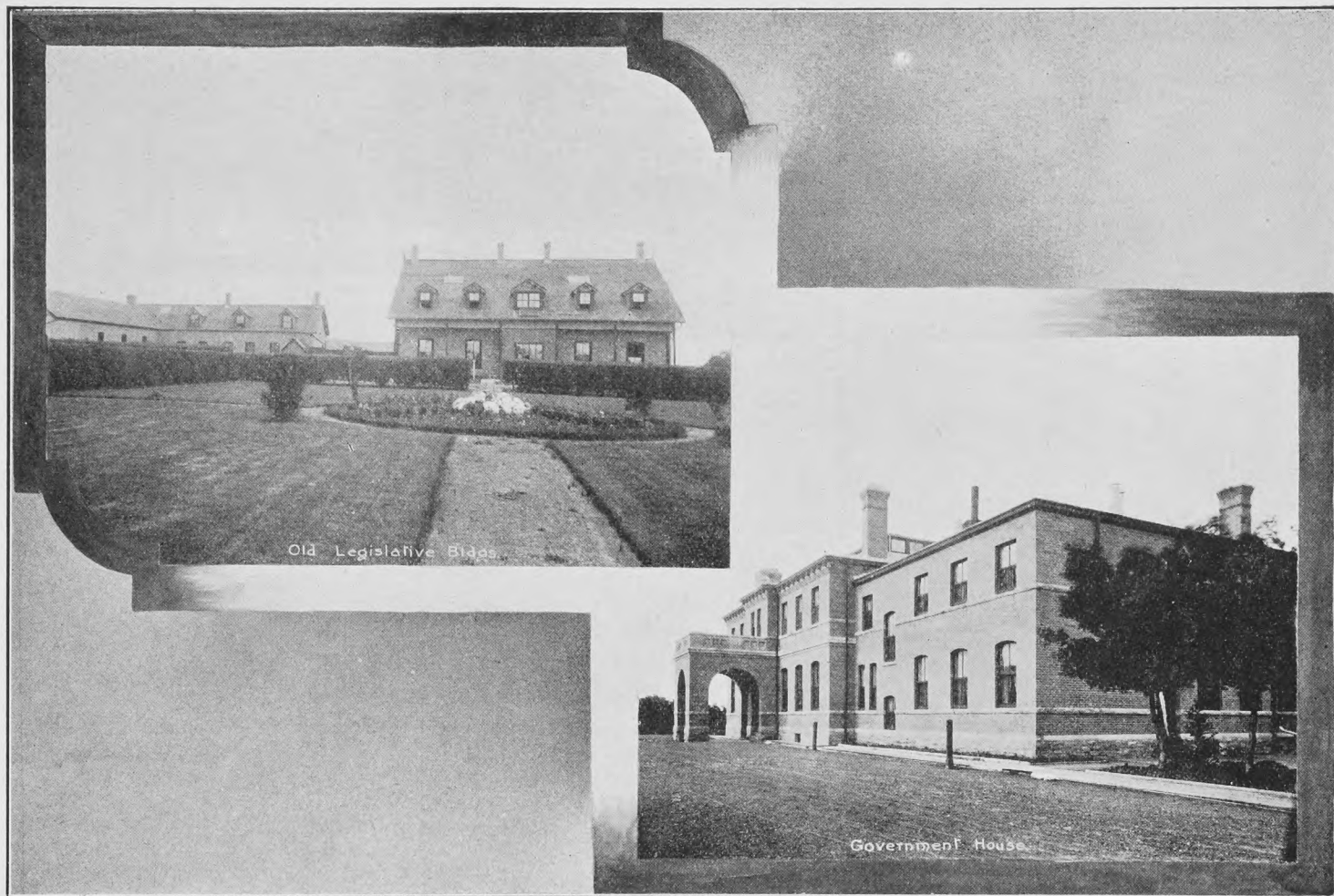
Bank of Ottawa



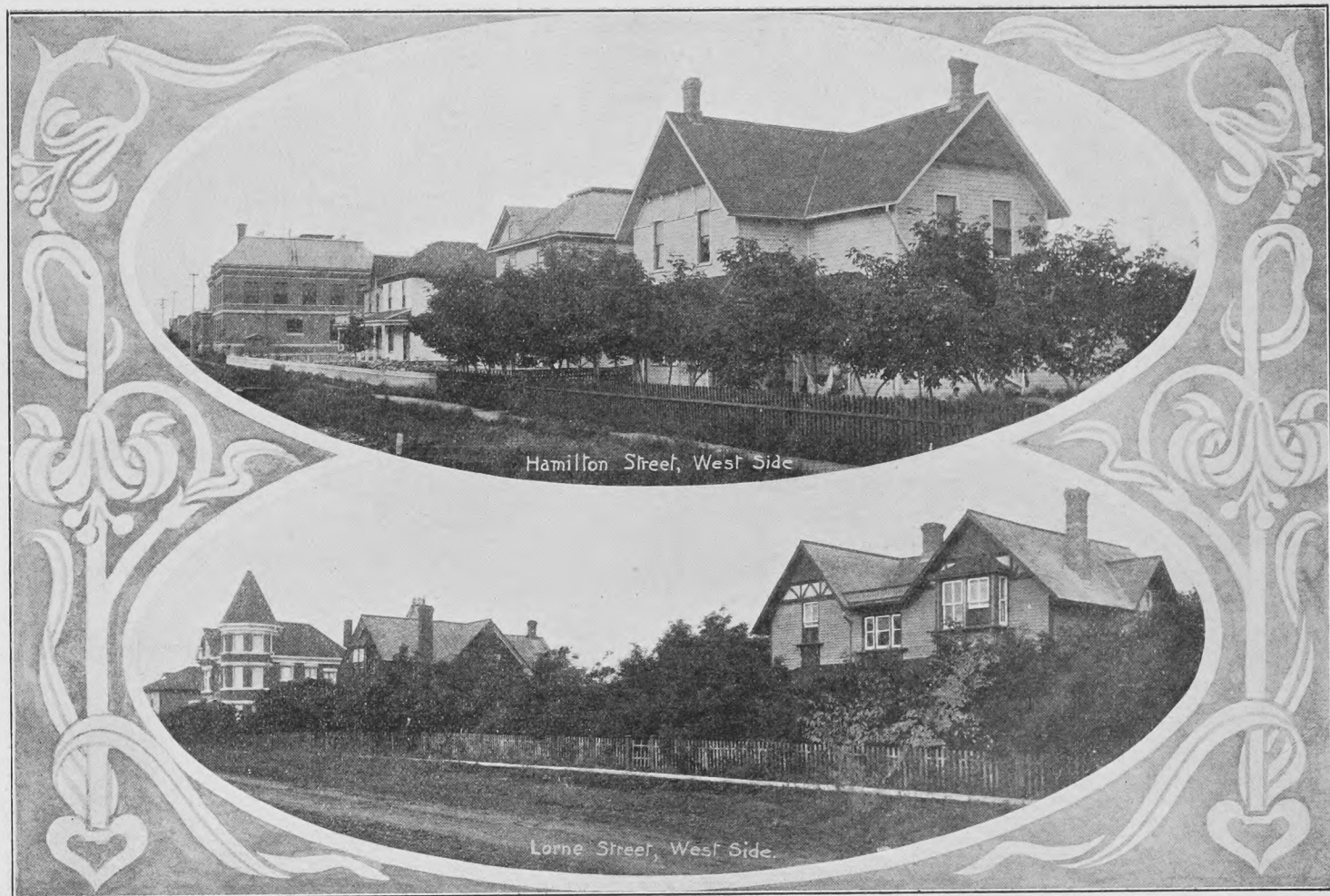
Bank of Montreal

SOME OF THE BANKS

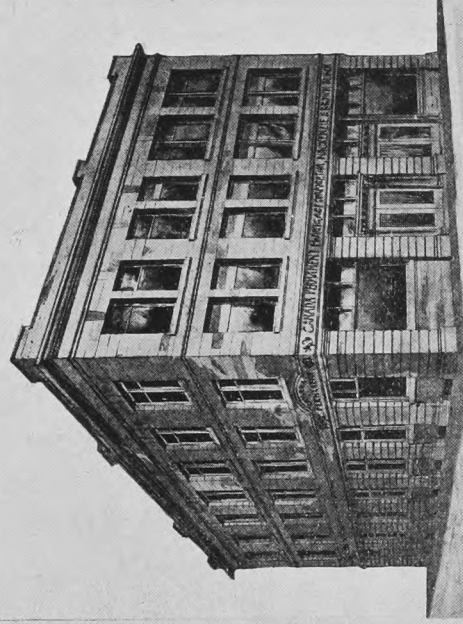




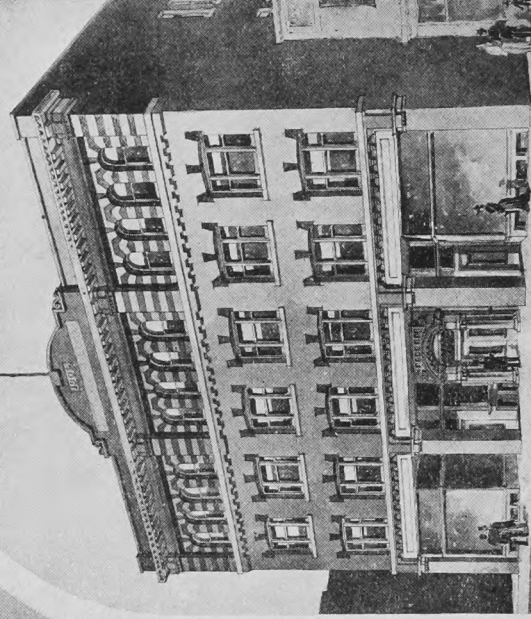
GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS



STREET SCENES



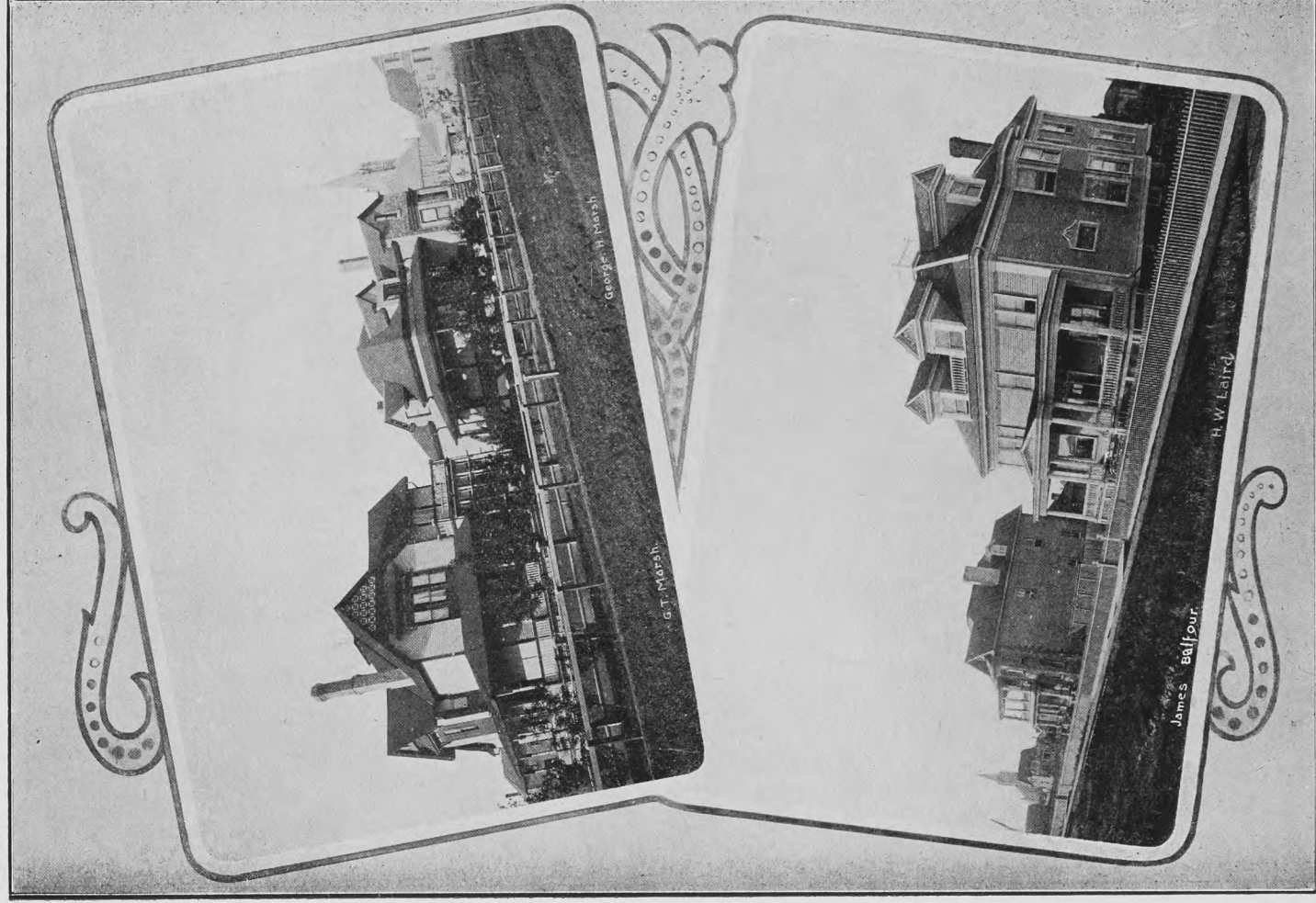
Canada Permanent Building



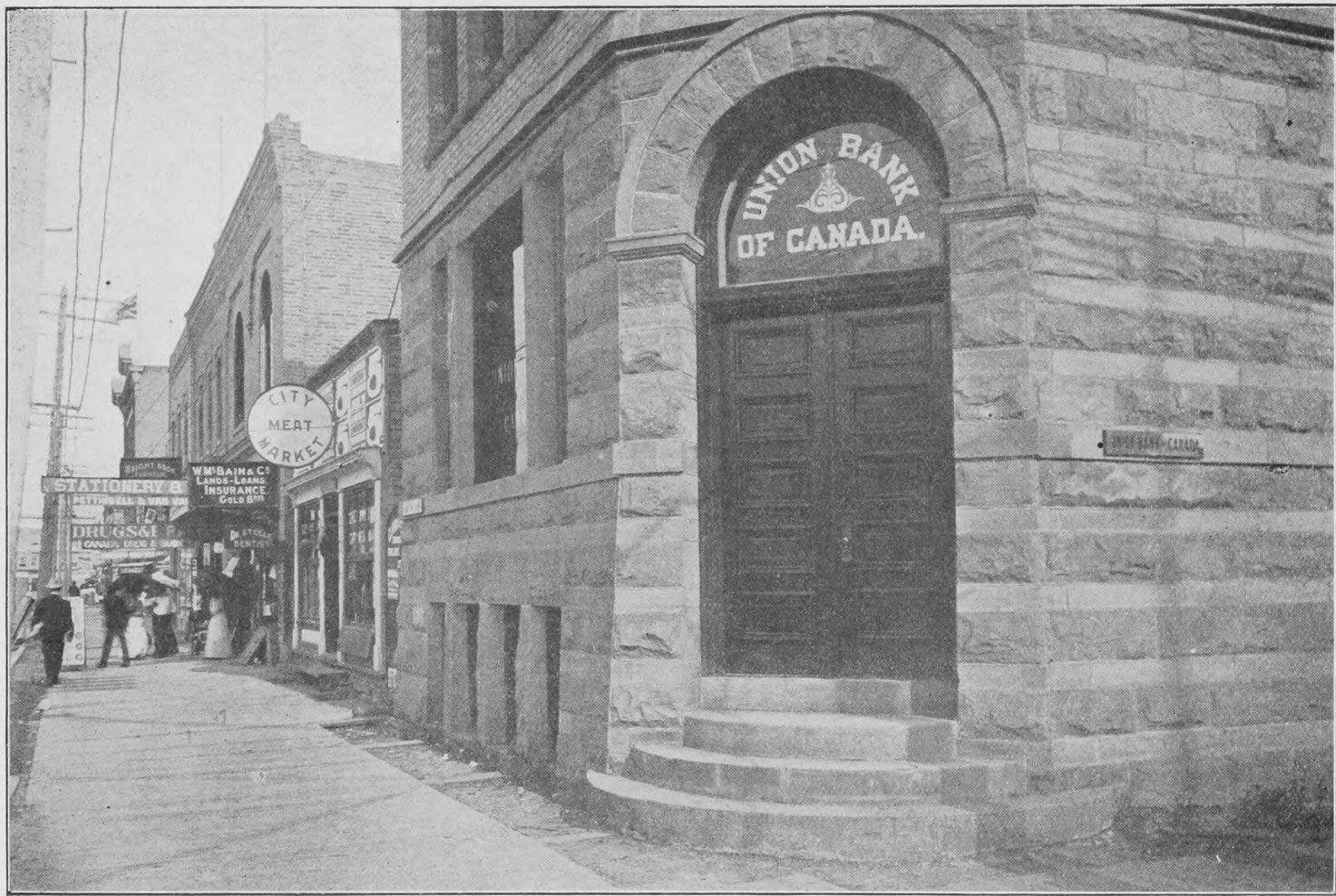
Haslam Building

NEW BUSINESS BLOCKS





RESIDENTIAL CORNERS



SOUTH RAILWAY STREET—LOOKING EAST



SOUTH RAILWAY STREET—LOOKING WEST





FIVE HOTELS

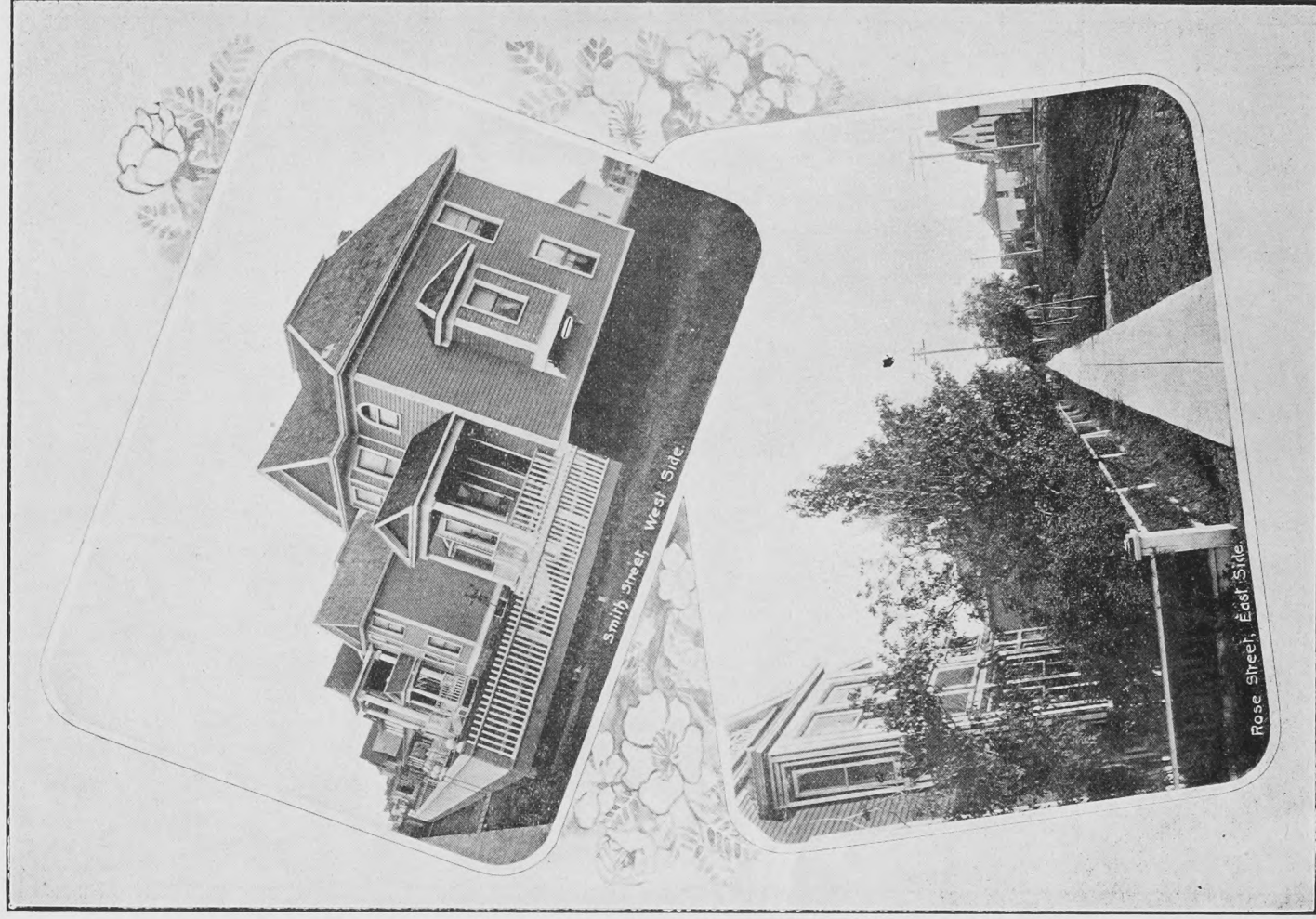


STREET SCENES

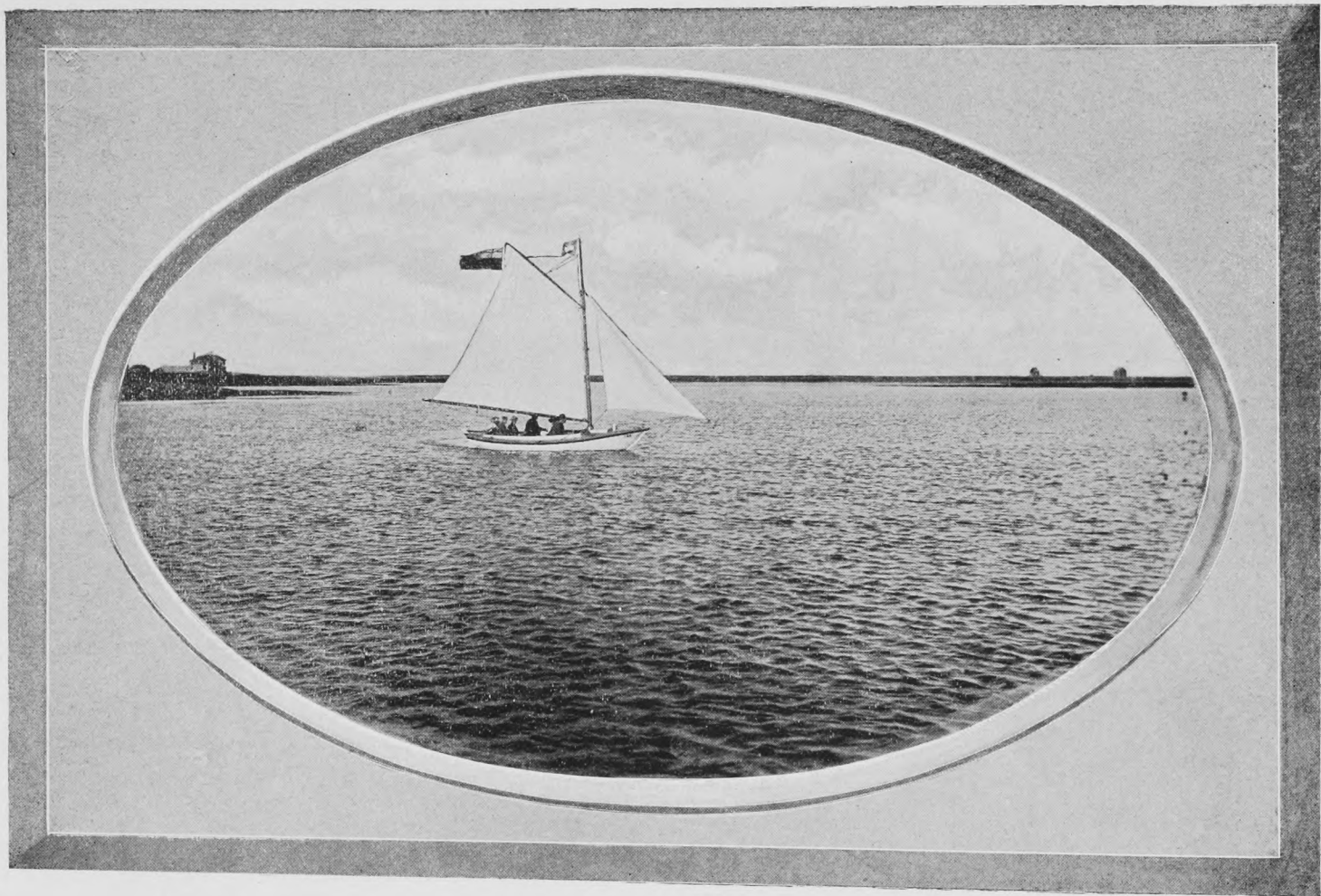


MODERN INSTITUTIONS





STREET SCENES



WASCANA LAKE



Residences of F.F. Forbes and Hon. Walter Scott.



Residence of J.W. Smith.

# RESIDENTIAL CORNERS

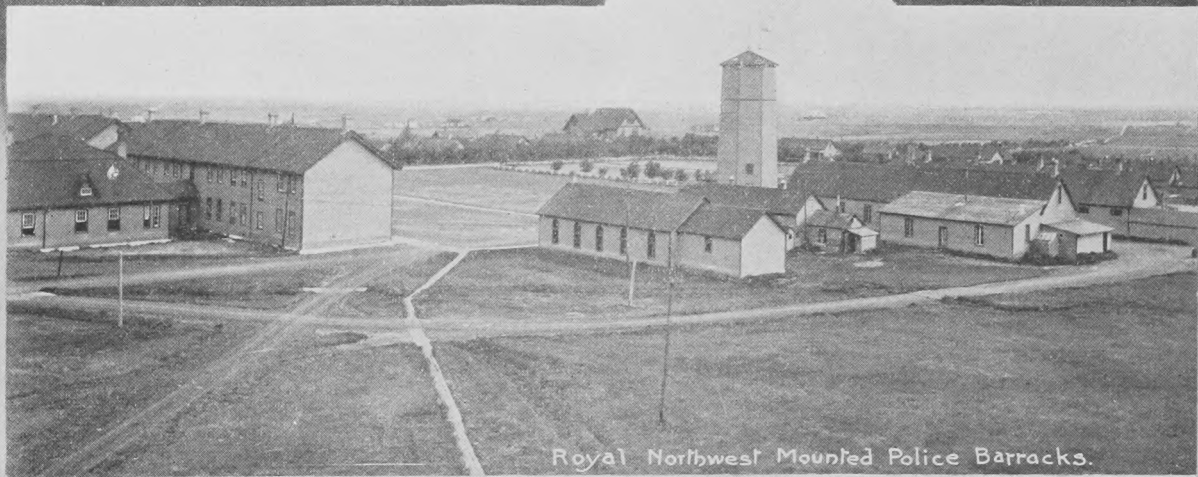




BUILDING operations in Regina in 1906 were limited by the scarcity of labor and materials, but excellent progress was made in the work of satisfying the demand. Permits issued up to August 31 amounted to about \$1,350,000, and it was estimated that the total would reach \$1,750,000 before the season closed. In the business section alone buildings valued at \$950,000 were in course of construction on September 1, and the value of the residences in the hands of the builders on that date was fully \$150,000. Over 300 buildings were erected in 1905, of which about 75 per cent. were residences, and Regina stood eighth among the cities of the Dominion in building statistics. It is believed that this record will be surpassed by the figures for the season of 1906. And still the cry is for more offices, more stores, more dwelling-houses.

A glance into the future indicates no lull in building operations. The Provincial Government has obtained a site on the south side of Wascana Lake, on which it proposes to erect Parliament Buildings and Offices at a probable cost of \$500,000. A new Normal School will be required, and it is proposed to make this building answer the needs of the years to come, as nearly as these may be calculated. A new Collegiate Institute, demanded by the growth of the city, is a feature of the building programme of the school authorities.

No form of investment is more popular in the city than the erection of new buildings. Attractive and serviceable structures are going up on every hand, and the open plains of five years ago are now crowded with beautiful residences. Regina is building for the future.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEWS



THE press of Regina typifies the progress which the city has made within the past few years. Three successful newspapers are now published, in addition to a weekly journal or magazine, which has recently been established. The newspapers are "The Leader" (morning and weekly), "The Standard" (evening, semi-weekly and weekly) and "The West" (weekly). These journals are located in commodious and well-equipped buildings, and each of them contributes materially to the education and instruction of the people. Various shades of political opinion are represented in the editorial policies, but all of them are bent on securing the news of the day and on furnishing their readers with an interesting chronicle of current events. The fact that these papers are appreciated is proven by the large advertising patronage which each of them enjoys, and the great revenues derived from this source constitute a reward for the labor which has been expended in building up a reputable and creditable press. "The Tattler," a new society weekly, is devoted to the publication of social, musical, dramatic and sporting items, with other departments which go to make up a bright and interesting paper.

Each of the three newspaper plants includes a job printing department, which is an important feature of the business. The machinery and other equipment in any of them would do credit to a large concern anywhere, and every effort is being made to keep the mechanical branch in line with the other departments of the printing trade.





The Standard.



The Leader.



The West Co.

# NEWSPAPER OFFICES



HOSPITAL work in Regina receives strong encouragement, and the task of relieving suffering is in good hands. The Victoria Hospital is a large institution, with every facility for furnishing good care and attention to the sick. Its constituency is by no means confined to the city, as a fair proportion of the cases comes from outside points. The accommodation provided has, indeed, been found to be insufficient for the growing needs of the community, and efforts are now being made to secure other and more suitable premises. Of the beneficial results which flow from the work of this institution, too much cannot be said. Careful management, attentive and painstaking nursing, and skilled surgical and medical assistance have established for the hospital a most favorable reputation throughout the province. The work is maintained largely through the generosity of the citizens, and the present revenue is not more than enough to meet the needs of the institution. The extension of the sphere of influence renders necessary a larger measure of support from all quarters. The Woman's Hospital Aid Society, composed of ladies of Regina who are interested in hospital work, has rendered great aid in the financing of the institution, and has more than once driven away the shadow of a deficit which threatened to impair its usefulness. The Alexandra Club has also rendered valuable assistance in the same cause.

The Regina Agricultural Society is engaged in a great work, along different lines, for the advancement of the city. Its annual exhibition, which is usually held early in August, is an event of great importance to the Capital and, in fact, to the whole of the southern portion of the province. The attendance in 1906 was about 25,000 for the three days, and the fair proved to be a source of instruction and entertainment for all. Excellent exhibits of cattle, horses and other live stock were features of the show, while the racing events brought together the best horses in Western Canada. The display of fruits, vegetables and farm produce generally was most creditable and the directors have been encouraged to strive for even greater success in years to come.



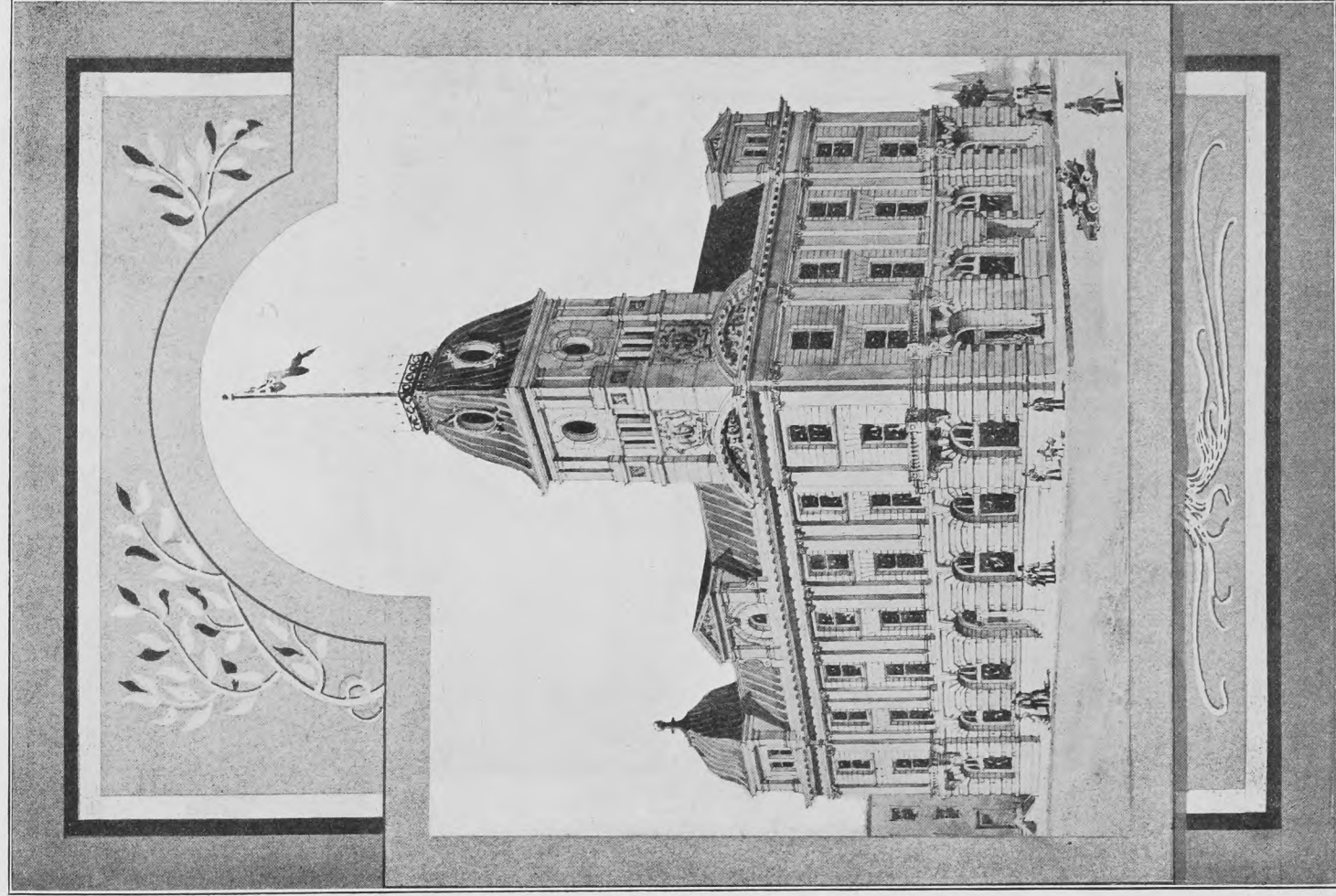
Wheat Field near Regina



Forty Bushels per Acre



**I**NCREASES in Government revenues furnish a good barometer by which the prosperity of the community may be tested, and in this respect Regina stands well in the list of progressive cities of the Dominion. The customs revenue for the last fiscal year (1905-6) was \$144,261, against \$51,720 in 1902-3, a gain of 180 per cent. in three years. Even this large amount does not represent duties on all the foreign goods which are consumed at Regina. Most of these reach the city after having been entered at some other port in the Dominion and sent on through. Nor does the amount of revenue give a true indication of the volume of customs business. The greater part of the imports consists of settlers' effects, which are free, and which are valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars. The post office revenue for the last fiscal year was about \$35,000, as compared with \$8,000 in 1900-1, a gain of 335 per cent. in five years. This growth gives better evidence of the increase of business. It has been steady and rapid, and the ratio is larger with each succeeding year. In the matter of post office revenue Regina compares favorably with much larger cities in Eastern Canada, and no city of similar population brings so great a return to the Government. The erection of a handsome post office and customs building on one of the central corners of the business section is proof of the Government's recognition of Regina's permanence. This structure is modern in every particular, and is one of the most elaborate of the many fine public buildings west of Lake Superior.

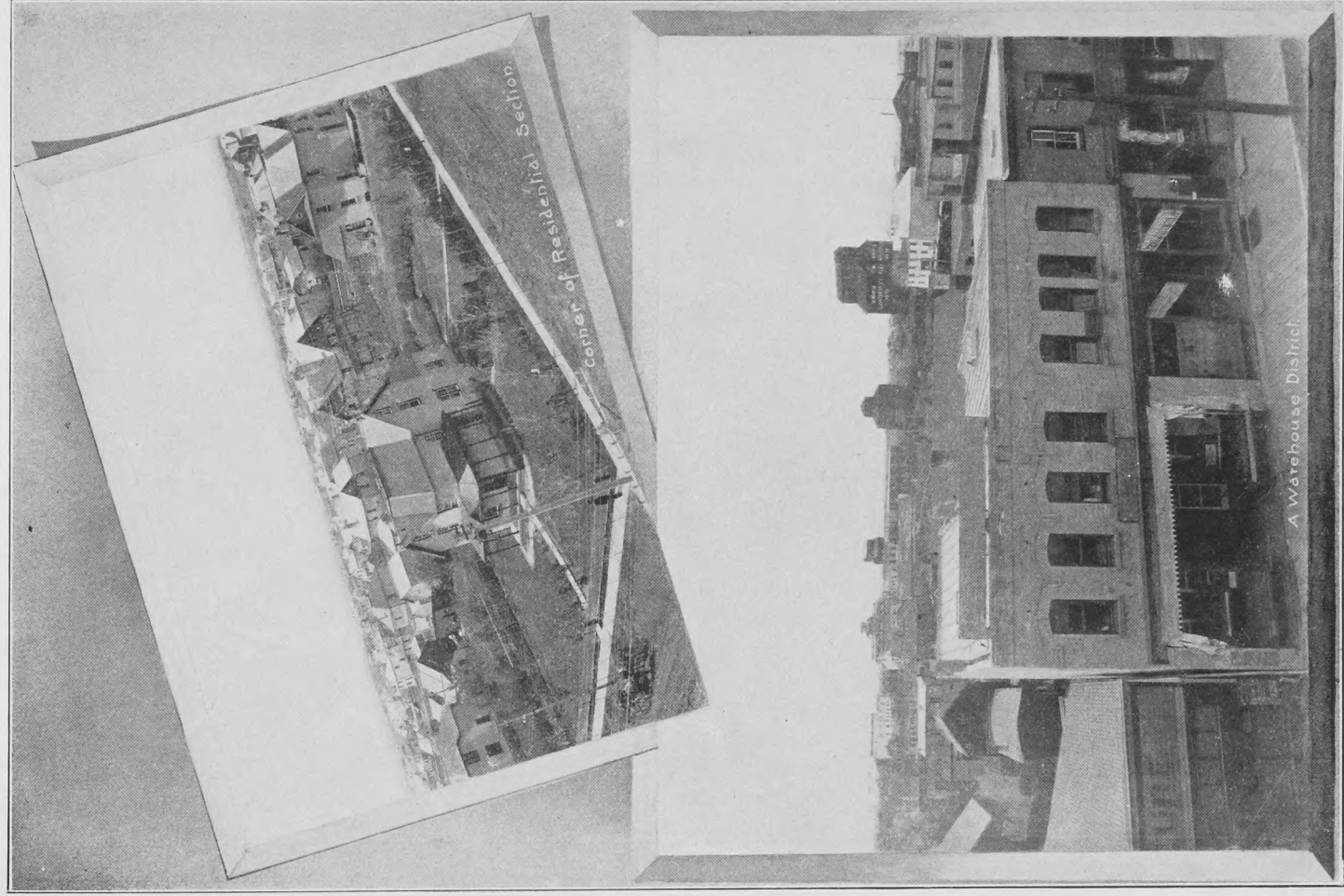


POST OFFICE AND CUSTOMS HOUSE



As the capital of the province Regina is the centre of the social and fraternal life of Saskatchewan. The principal fraternal organizations are represented by flourishing lodges, which are gradually extending their respective spheres of activity and are making a deeper impression on the life of the community. The Ancient Free and Accepted Masons have recently formed a Grand Lodge for Saskatchewan, with headquarters in the city, and their example is likely to be followed by the other important societies. A beautiful Masonic Temple, which is expected to cost \$75,000, is in course of erection, and it will furnish a home for the various branches of Freemasonry. Some of the other societies are the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Sons of Scotland, Ancient Order of Foresters, Woodmen of the World, United Commercial Travellers, Independent Order of Oddfellows, Independent Order of Foresters, Canadian Order of Home Circles, Royal Templars of Temperance, Loyal Orange Lodge, Canadian Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias, Sons of England, Catholic Mutual Benevolent Association, and the Canadian Order of Foresters. There are in addition the Christian Endeavor Society, the Epworth League, and the other regular church and religious organizations. A Trades and Labor Council, embracing unions of the various organizations of working men, has also been formed, and it constitutes a representative labor body for the entire city.

Regina is well known as the headquarters of the famous Royal North-West Mounted Police. This organization, maintained by the Dominion Government, has been in existence since 1874, and has contributed in a large measure to the preservation of peace and order throughout Western Canada. Its influence has increased rather than diminished with the advance of settlement, and those who are best acquainted with its methods and the results of its work are most willing to express their appreciation of its usefulness as a factor in the government of the country. The barracks are located just west of the city, and are one of the great points of interest to visitors. They are well maintained, on a semi-military basis, with excellent accommodation for officers and men. The people of the province, and indeed of the whole West, are glad to know that this fine force is to be continued under the new system of government, with the Dominion and the two provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan contributing jointly to its maintenance and support.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEWS



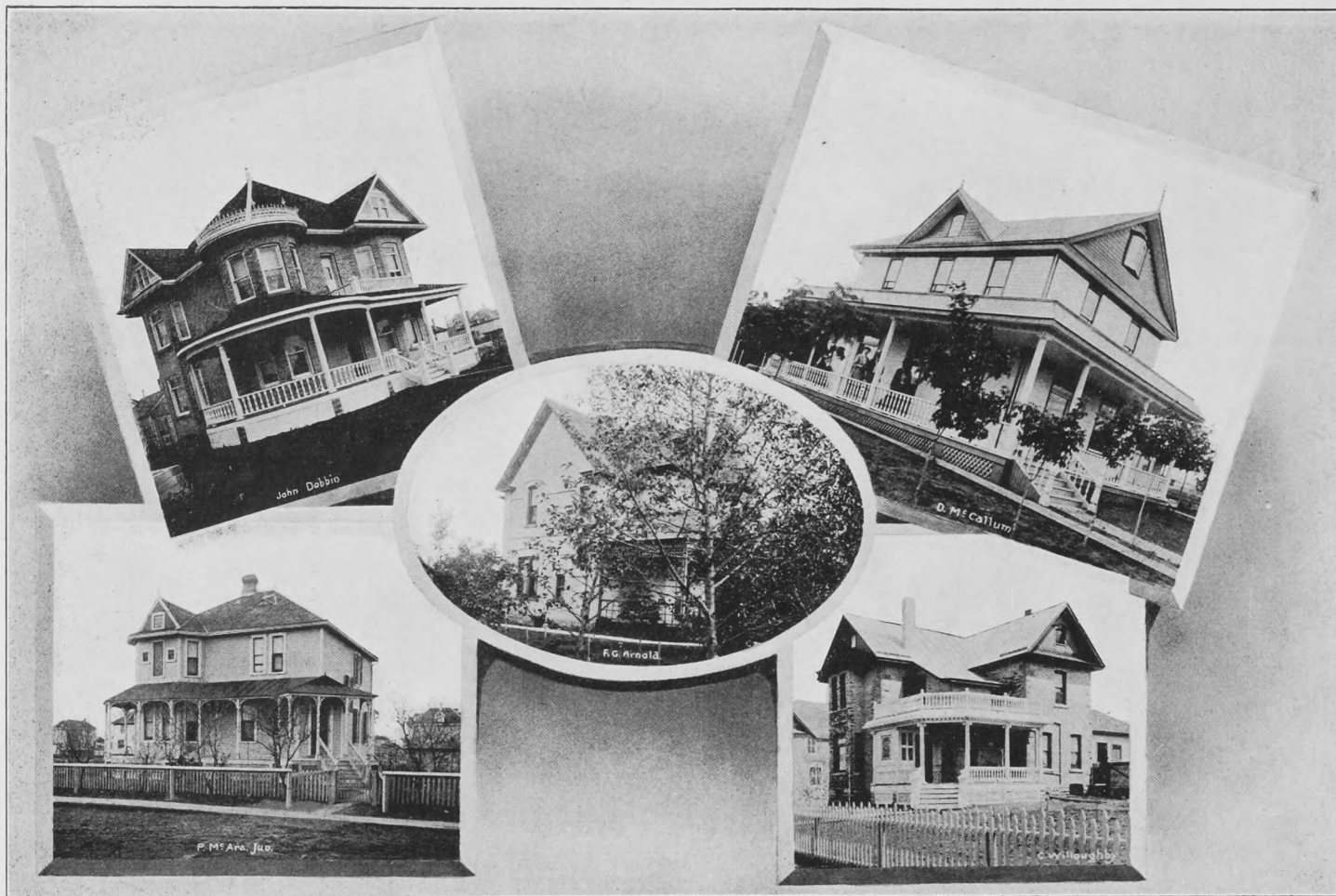


REGINA offers many advantages and opportunities as a place of residence. Chief among these is its remarkable climate. Located in the heart of the great prairie country it is surrounded by an atmosphere of which dryness and clearness are prominent characteristics. The total volume of sunshine is as much as in any other place in the country, and it is far larger than in the majority of them. Records show that the sun shines brightly on an average of about 300 days in the year, and only a small proportion of the balance are wholly cloudy. The clearness of the air is partly due to the altitude. Regina is 1,885 feet above the sea level, and enjoys all the advantages which accrue from such an elevation.

Material aids have gone a long way towards improving the natural advantages of the city as a place of residence. An elaborate system of waterworks has been installed, with abundant springs seven miles north-east of the city as the base of supplies. The water is delivered in the city mains with little or no expense, the gravitation system being employed for this purpose. Extensions of the system are constantly being made, and additional springs are being tapped to keep ahead of the demand. The quality of the water is in general extremely good, and instances of its deterioration have been rare. The district adjoining the city abounds in springs of pure water, and an enormous supply is guaranteed for years to come.

The septic tank system of sewage disposal is being employed with great success. Sewers have been laid throughout the main portion of the city, and extensions in the outskirts are under way. The effectiveness of this system is forcibly demonstrated by the good health record of the community. The amount of illness is very small in proportion to the population, while the death-rate is extremely low, even for Western Canada.

Prosperity and contentment are exemplified in the homes of Regina, and handsome and commodious residences are to be found in large numbers. Comfort rather than elegance is apparently the prime consideration. The demand for houses has for some time exceeded the supply, and builders have been unable to answer the calls made upon them. Blocks of residences have sprung up as if by magic, and a steady improvement in the general style has been noticed. The permanence of a city is indicated in no better way than in the quality of its residences, and in this respect Regina occupies an excellent position.



TYPES OF RESIDENCES

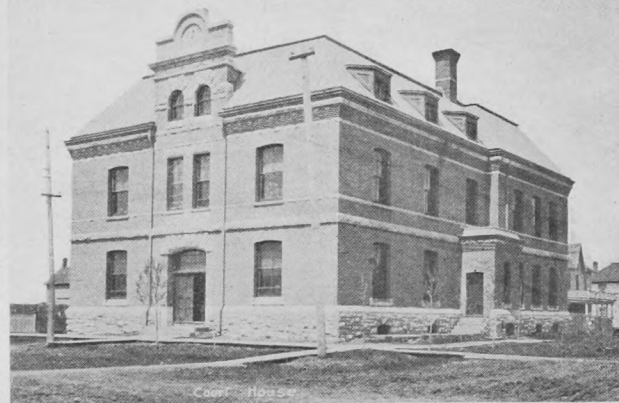


RAIN-GROWING and stock-raising in the district surrounding Regina are the industries which constitute the backbone of the city's commercial position. The Province of Saskatchewan is famous for the opportunities which it offers in the development of these branches of agricultural activity, and it bids fair to become the greatest farming area on the American continent. The aggregate yield of all grains in the province rose from 5,200,000 bushels in 1900 to 46,647,000 bushels in 1905. Of the latter amount 26,107,000 bushels consisted of wheat, compared with 3,441,000 in 1900, and 19,213,000 of oats compared with 1,605,000. The yield of flax in 1905 was 398,000 bushels and of speltz 35,000 bushels. The average yields for the entire province were 23.09 bushels of wheat, 42.70 bushels of oats and 27.11 bushels of barley. The fertility of the Regina district is indicated by the fact that the average yields were 27.35 bushels of wheat, 53.89 bushels of oats, and 31.97 bushels of barley. This favorable showing in comparison with the general averages has been the feature of the grain production around Regina for many years, and it is accounted for by the richness of the soil. The surface consists of a black loam of uncertain depth. In the immediate vicinity of the city the crust is at least 50 feet deep, and it is as rich in one locality as in another. Crops have been raised on the same land year after year for a quarter of a century with no depreciation in the condition of the soil, and it seems there is little probability of the ground ever being exhausted.

Government figures for 1906 indicate a total yield in the Regina district of 4,132,500 bushels of wheat, an average of 27 per acre; 3,006,500 bushels of oats, an average of 53; and 55,500 bushels of barley, an average of 32. The estimated yields for the entire province are 31,230,000 bushels of wheat, an average of 23.37; 23,419,500 bushels of oats, an average of 42.94; and 1,008,900 bushels of barley, an average of 26.26. These estimates were prepared just before the harvest began and are generally regarded as accurate. The abundant yields of all classes of grain in the vicinity of Regina have done more than anything else to attract attention to the city and to bring in settlers from distant lands. The farmer makes no mistake in taking up land within a reasonable distance as he is assured of large crops and an excellent market.



Lands Office



TYPICAL PUBLIC BUILDINGS





LIFE in Regina is varied by many amusements and recreations, although the great distances which separate the new capital of the West from the larger cities of Eastern Canada and the United States prevent it from securing as many attractions in the way of entertainment as might be desired. The people are thoroughly appreciative, and when first class entertainment companies do appear in the city they are most liberally patronized. A vigorous effort is being made to overcome the geographical handicap by the development and encouragement of local talent. Foremost among the institutions of the city stands the Regina Philharmonic Society, which has done most effective work in the encouragement of vocal and orchestral music. This institution is a young but thriving one and its success in the past has induced it to make more ambitious attempts for the future. It has furnished most satisfactory productions of such operas as "The Yeomen of the Guard" and "The Gondoliers," and its next work is "The Creation." A repertoire of this description is sufficient to indicate the scope of the society's work. The citizens are proud of the success achieved by it and support it most generously.

The principal theatrical companies which appear in the west count heavily on the returns from the performances at Regina, and they are seldom disappointed. The taste for good plays is constantly improving and extending, and the city promises to derive much importance as a centre of theatrical patronage.

In the realm of sports, Regina occupies a prominent position. Lacrosse, cricket, baseball, football and tennis flourish during the long summer season, and curling, hockey and skating in the winter. The city boasts an athletic ground in the central district, where the lacrosse, baseball and football devotees may disport themselves. Tennis and cricket grounds are set aside in Victoria Park, which is also centrally located. A large rink furnishes accommodation for hockey and skating, and these pastimes are deservedly popular. Curling requires a special rink, and at the time of the Provincial bonspiel, which is held annually, the skating rink is also surrendered to the men of broom and stone.

Plans are now being prepared for a large new rink with accommodation sufficient to meet the ordinary needs of the curlers. Wascana Park in the southern part of the town is being laid out for use as another athletic ground, where the youth of Regina may indulge their passion for outdoor amusement.

Club life is represented by the Assiniboia Club and the Elks' Club. Each of these institutions has a large membership, and their prospects for the future are indicated by the fact that each is considering the advisability of securing larger and more modern quarters.

Living in Regina is decidedly worth while, and those who spend a few months in the city are usually anxious to become permanent residents. Bright sunshine, dry air and a high degree of sanitation undoubtedly contribute to this result, and it may be that the general prosperity and commercial activity appeal to the business instinct of mankind. A well-known Eastern writer who made an extended tour of the West in the summer of 1906, remarked on his return that Regina showed greater evidence of progressiveness, hustle and general advancement than any other community he had visited. As his trip embraced all the cities and larger towns between Winnipeg and the Pacific Coast his unsolicited expression of opinion is worthy of deep consideration.

Regina looks to the future with confidence. Her citizens feel that the advancement which is now shown, by comparison with earlier years, is but the prelude of greater things which are to come. The active, bustling city of to-day is expected to develop rapidly into the metropolis of the great West, the heart and centre of a wealthy and fruitful land.

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